

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 12, 16 and 19 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 2 are amended and claim 22 is canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following Remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

It is gratefully appreciated that the Office Action indicates that claim 22 contains allowable subject matter.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7, 12, 16 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bulovic (U.S. Patent No. 6,046,543).

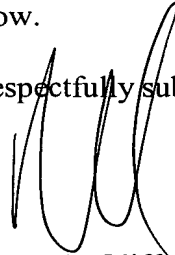
Independent claims 1 and 2 are amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 22. Thus, independent claims 1 and 2 are in a condition for allowance. Furthermore, claims 3-7, 12, 16 and 19 depend from allowable independent claim 1 and therefore also are in a condition for allowance.

Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-7, 12, 16 and 19 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 19, 2004

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